CHAP. VIII.

AN

ACT

TO

Prohibit Saleſmen from being Graziers, and to Redreſs ſeveral Abuſes in Buying and Selling Cattle and Meat.

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AN

ACT

TO

Prohibit Salefmen from being Citizens, and to Regulate several Affairs in Buying and Selling Stock-in-Trade.

An Act to Prohibit Salesmen from being Graziers, and to Redress several Abuses in Buying and Selling Cattle, and Meat.

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WHEREAS great Inconveniencies and Vexations happen by Salesmen being Graziers, and by their Engrossing Cattle to sell again;

For Remedy whereof, be it Enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by

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and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That no Person or Persons, taking upon him or them to sell Cattle or Sheep in the Market of Smithfield in Dublin, and commonly known by the Name of Salesmen, shall from and after the First Day of May, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty eight, Use or Exercise the Occupation of a Grazier, or shall hold or keep any Land in his or their Possession, or in the Possession of any other Person or Persons to his or their Use, or in Trust for him or them, or for his or their Benefit, for the Grazing or Feeding of any Oxen, Colts, Sheep, or other Cattle whatsoever, on Pain that such Salesman, and the Person or Persons so possessed as aforesaid, shall severally Forfeit, for every Week that he or they shall Offend therein, the Sum of Five Pounds Sterling, to be paid to the Informer, and to be Recovered with full Costs by Civil Bill in such Courts where Proceedings by Civil Bill may by Law be had, or by Action of Debt, Plaint, or Information, in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record in Dublin, in which no Protection, Wager of Law, or Essoign, shall be allowed, or more than one Imparlance,

lance, or upon Conviction, by Confeſſion of the Party, or by the Oath of one or more Credible Witneſs or Witneſſes before the Lord Mayor of the City of Dublin for the Time Being; or before the Seneſchal of the Manors or Liberties of Saint Sepulchre's, Thomas-Court and Donore, within their reſpective Juriſdictions, or where there ſhall be no ſuch Magiſtrate, before one or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace of the County where ſuch Offence ſhall be Committed, to be Levied by Way of Diſtreſs and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of every ſuch Offender, by Warrant from the ſaid Lord Mayor, Seneſchal or Seneſchals, Juſtice or Juſtices before whom ſuch Conviction ſhall be made, returning the Overplus, where there ſhall be any. CHAP. VIII.

And Whereas by an Act of Parliament made in this Kingdom, in the Second Year of the Reign of her late Majeſty Queen Anne, It is amongſt other Things Enacted, in the Words following, viz. *And it is hereby further Enacted and Provided, That no Perſon or Perſons Uſing or Exerciſing the Trade, Craft, or Myſtery of a Butcher, within the City of Dublin, or within Five Miles thereof, ſhall, from and after the Firſt Day of* May *next enſuing, ſell any Fat Oxen, Steers, Cows, Sheep, Calves, or Lambs, either Alive or Dead, to any other Perſon or Perſons Uſing or Exerciſing the ſame Trade or Myſtery of a*

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Butcher, on Pain of Forfeiting double the Value of all such Oxen, Steers, Cows, sheep, Calves or Lambs, so Sold by him or them to any other Butcher, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Statute; the One Moiety of which Forfeiture shall be to the Queen's Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, the other Moiety to him that will Sue for the same.

And whereas the said in part recited Act of Parliament, has not Answered the Good End for which it was Intended, and great Mischief is Occasioned, by Butchers selling Cattle and Meat to other persons who Sell the same again; Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Butcher, or person exercising the Trade of a Butcher in Dublin, or within ten Miles thereof, or any other person that shall Kill or Slaughter, or Cause to be Killed or Slaughtered, any Oxen, Colts, Sheep, Calves, or Lambs, shall knowingly Sell the same, or any part thereof, to any other Butcher, or person or persons that shall Sell or Retail the same again, or Expose it to be Retailed or Sold again, or in Trust, or for the Use or Benefit of any Butcher, or other person or persons, that shall Retail or Sell the same again, or Expose it to be Retailed or Sold again, the person or persons so Selling, as well as the person or

persons

persons so Buying and Selling, or Exposing to Sale again, shall severally Forfeit the Sum of Five Pounds for every such Offence, to be paid to the Informer and to be Recovered in Manner aforesaid, with full Costs. CHAP. VIII.

And whereas it is a Common Practice with the Butchers of Dublin, to go into the Country, and Buy fat Lambs and Calves, and also to Buy fat Lambs and Calves on the Roads to Dublin, which is the Chief, if not the only Cause of the Exorbitant Price of Veal and Lamb in the Markets of Dublin; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Butcher exercising his Trade in Dublin, or other Person for his Use or Benefit, shall Buy, or Agree, or Contract for any fat Calf or Calves, Lamb or Lambs in the Country, or upon any of the Roads to Dublin; and that all Calves and Lambs that are to be Sold by Retail in any of the Markets, commonly called Meat Markets, in Dublin, shall be Sold openly in the Market of Smithfield in Dublin, at the Times appointed by Law, for the Sale of Cattle therein, and shall not be Sold, Agreed, or Contracted for at any other Place, or at any other Time; and that if any Person shall Buy, or Sell, or Agree, or Contract for any Calf or Lamb, contrary to the true

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Intent and Meaning hereof, every such Person shall severally, for every such Offence, Forfeit the Sum of five Pounds, to be paid to the Informer, and to be Recovered in Manner aforesaid, with full Costs.

And to the End that this Act may be Effectually carried into Execution; be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That any Person may File an English Bill, or Information, in any of his Majesty's four Courts in Dublin, against any Person or Persons that shall Offend, or that he shall have reasonable Ground to suspect of Offending, contrary to this Act, and the true Meaning thereof; and also against any Person or Persons that he shall Suspect to be Privy to such Offence, in Order to the better Discovery of the said several Offences; to which Bill or Information, the Party or Parties, against whom the same shall be Filed, shall give in a full Answer upon Oath, and not plead or Demurr; and if such Person or Persons shall Forswear him or themselves in such Answer, the Person so forswearing himself shall be Guilty of Perjury, and upon Conviction thereof, shall suffer Punishment, as in Case of Wilful and Corrupt Perjury.

Provided

Provided allways, that such Answer shall not be Evidence against the Person putting in the same, or be in any ways made Use of to subject him to any of the Penalties of this Act.

Provided allways, that where any Action or Suit, founded upon this Act, shall be brought or commenced, and the said Suit or Action shall appear to the Court, where the same shall be brought, to be Groundless and Vexatious, the said Court may award reasonable Costs, for the Defendant or Defendants, in such Action or Suit.

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby Declared, That no Person or Persons shall be Sued or Troubled for any Offence or Offences done, or Supposed to be done or Committed against this Act, unless such Prosecutions shall be Commenced, or Begun, within Nine Kalendar Months next after the said Offence or Offences are Committed.